



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

INVESTING IN SOUTHERN MICHIGAN

The Whitmer-Gilchrist administration has invested in every region of Michigan to deliver on the kitchen-table issues that matter most to families, communities, and small businesses.

Growing Southern Michigan's economy

- Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) investments:
 - Over \$4 million invested to support over 40 Business Development projects projected to create over 500 jobs and leverage over \$100 million in private investment.
 - Nearly \$8 million to support 15 Community Development projects, leveraging more than \$33 million in private investment and reactivating nearly 400,000 square feet of public space.
- Delivered \$5 million to support over 900 businesses and retain more than 7,000 jobs through COVID, with 40% of relief going to geographically disadvantaged areas.

Empowering workers in Southern Michigan

- 2,652 Michigan Reconnect applicants in Southern Michigan are on tuition-free paths to higher education or skills training.
- 2,598 Futures for Frontliners in Southern Michigan who served on the frontlines of the pandemic have been accepted to get on tuition-free paths to receiving a diploma or attending community college.
- Created 649 new registered apprenticeships with a focus on supporting opportunities for underrepresented populations: veterans, women, people of color, those with disabilities, and young Michiganders.
- COVID relief:
 - Saved 386 jobs with Workshare program which allowed employees to collect unemployment benefit while working part-time.
 - Set up six virtual job fairs connecting 126 employers to over 302 job-seekers.

Fixing roads, bridges, pipes, and parks in Southern Michigan

- Fixed 405 lane miles of road and 19 bridges, supporting 4,850 jobs.
- Invested \$1.9 million to upgrade or repair state and local parks.
- Invested nearly \$28 million into water infrastructure in Southern Michigan to upgrade sewer systems, replaced lead pipes, and protected safe drinking water for families.

Investing in students and schools in Southern Michigan

- Increased per-pupil funding by 16%, or \$1,279, for every student in Southern Michigan since taking office.
- Expanded access to free preschool through the Great Start Readiness Program to 1,141 kids in Southern Michigan.
- Raised childcare funding per kid in Southern Michigan by 152%.

Building housing and keeping families in their homes in Southern Michigan

- Constructed 569 affordable, attainable housing units.
- Helped 603 families with mortgages and down payments.
- Kept 2,920 families in their homes with rental assistance.
- Delivered emergency rental assistance to 3,107 families.

Proposals to cut taxes for seniors and working families in Southern Michigan

- Governor Whitmer's proposal to roll back the retirement tax would save 14,200 families in Southern Michigan an average of \$1,000 a year, putting \$14.2 million back in people's pockets and the local economy.
- Governor Whitmer's proposal to triple Michigan's Earned Income Tax Credit would deliver an average combined tax refund of \$3,000 to 20,900 working families in Southern Michigan, putting \$62.7 million in people's pockets and the local economy.

UPDATED: September 6, 2022